

52 Langston Avenue  
Harlem, New York  
60640

January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Dear Mrs. Luella Bates Washington Jones,

I am sincerely sorry ma'am for trying to take your pocket book that night. I tried to take the pocket book from you that night because my parents were not around a lot to give me the things that I wanted and teach me the lessons that I should have known. At that point in life I was very selfish and tried to take the money for the shoes, the money that never should have been mine.

The things you did for me that night changed me, ma'am. When you told me to wash my face and comb my hair no one had ever cared for me the way that you had that night. The way you left me in the room with your pocket book when you went to make us the wonderful meal showed me that you trusted me even after what I had done. You could have taken me to the police but you choose not to. The advice you gave me that night ma'am had a lasting impact on me. How you told me that you had done things in your life too that you were not proud of and that if I had taken the money for the shoes they would have "burned my feet". Those things you did for me, the 10 dollars you gave me changed my life for ever.

Once again ma'am I am very sorry for what I did and that I did not say anything other than "Thank You Ma'am". There was so much more I could have said that night and did not. The 10 dollars you gave to me was not something that I had earned, but you still gave it to me. All I can really say now after all these years is thank you ma'am for changing my life the way you did.

Yours truly,

Roger